

Line 25, before this line insert:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT--

IN THE CLAIMS

(APPLICATION PAGES 7-8)

Before claim 1, change "Patent Claims" to --I CLAIM:--

Please amend claims 1-9 as follows:

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1. (amended) A device for detecting the position of a selector lever, in which the selector lever is connected to a device that emits a signal to an evaluation device in a desired position of the selector lever, wherein the selector lever (1) is connected to a diaphragm (2, 3) arranged in ^{the} ~~the~~ beam path between an optical transmitter (18) and an optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14), the diaphragm (2, 3), which follows [the] movement of the selector lever (1), being [designed in such a way as to be] optically transparent in the desired position of the selector lever (1), as a result of which the optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) receives the signal from the optical transmitter (18) and transmits it to the evaluation device (15).

2. (amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein there is a said [an] optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) for each position of the selector lever (1) to be

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determined, and an opening (5, 6, 7) in the diaphragm (2, 3) is moved over the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) when the selector lever (1) is moved.

3. (amended) The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) are arranged in a fixed manner on a carrier element (8) in accordance with [the] sequence of motion of the selector lever (1).

4. (amended) The device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the evaluation device (15) connected to the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) is arranged on [the] said carrier element (8).

5. (amended) The device as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least one said optical transmitter (18) is arranged on the carrier element (8), [the] an optical signal of which [can be deviated] is deviatable onto the diaphragm (2, 3) by [means of] a light guide.

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6. (amended) The device as claimed in claim 1 [or 2], wherein there ~~is~~ one said diaphragm (2, 3) for each direction of motion of the selector lever (1).

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7. (amended) The device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the diaphragms (2, 3) [can be moved] are movable in mechanical isolation from one another.

8. (amended) The device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the second of said diaphragms (3), [which] follows the selector lever (1) in an approximately vertical direction (y), and has two optically transparent openings (6, 7), [the] vertical movement of the selector lever (1) being converted into a circular-arc-like movement of the diaphragm (3).

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Not shown in view 33

9. (amended) The device as claimed in claim 5, [6 and 8,] wherein the light guide [is designed to] covers an extended area to ensure uniform distribution of the optical signal over the diaphragms (2, 3).

Please add the following claims:

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--10. The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein there is one said diaphragm (2, 3) for each direction of motion of the selector lever (1).

11. The device as claimed in claim 5, wherein there is one said diaphragm (2, 3) for each direction of motion of the selector lever (1), the diaphragms (2, 3) are movable in mechanical isolation from one another, the second of